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The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I suppose the Conservator of Forests must have sent letters through his subordinate officers to the ryots concerned."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether these instructions will be published in the local papers ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have no objection."

Financial position and prospects of the Chenat Nair Forest Exploitation Scheme.

*34 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to place before this House a statement showing the financial position and prospects of the Chenat Nair Forest Exploitation Scheme ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 485, Development, dated 17th March 1928, which was placed on the table of the House.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether the impressions he formed about the Chenat Nair Forest Exploitation Scheme are correct or not ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I say that question is an argument."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" On another occasion the hon. the Law Member said that he formed certain impressions about the Chenat Nair Forest Scheme. I am simply asking whether those impressions are correct and what are the ultimate results of his visit to the Chenat Nair Forest."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I visited only the saw mill and the outskirts of the Chenat Nair forests, and I said that from my visit I formed certain impressions."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I wish to know how a supplementary question arises out of this question There is no reference in this question to the visit of Chenat Nair forests by the hon. the Law Member."

Deputation of an officer to study modern logging methods.

*35 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any officers were deputed or have been deputed or are proposed to be deputed to the Philippines or Burma or any other place to study modern logging methods and if so, who, of what nationality and with what qualifications ;

(b) whether any of the officers so deputed has returned to the Forest Department, and if so, who, where, in what capacity and with what salary and benefit ;

(c) whether any such officer, on return, has not been employed in logging operations or other service, and if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) if the officer so deputed or to be deputed is non-Indian, why no Indian was selected ?

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A.—(*a*) & (*d*) It is proposed to depute an Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests and a Range Officer to the Philippines for five months from about December 1928 for the purpose of studying modern logging methods. The personnel of the deputation has not yet been decided.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Are there any officers who are working out this scheme who are conversant with modern method of logging?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I want to have notice."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know with reference to the answer to clause (*d*) whether the Government are prepared to depute only Indian members for this purpose?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Government have not come to any conclusion on that point. After consultation with the Chief Conservator of Forests they will come to a conclusion."

Marine

Progress of the Tuticorin Harbour Works Scheme.

* 36 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) in what stage of develcpment the Harbour Works Scheme at Tuticorin is;

(*b*) what future development is contemplated, and at what cost;

(*c*) what contribution the Port Trust is expected to make or has decided to make; and

(*d*) what has been the total expenditure on the works up to date, and how the capital and interest are repaid or are to be repaid?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the Prees Communiqué on Tuticorin Harbour issued by Government on 7th March 1928. The Government have since asked the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief to prepare separate detailed estimates for the cost of construction and maintenance of a complete harbour at (*a*) Hare Island and (*b*) the site fronting Tuticorin suggested by the Committee of Harbour Engineering Experts.

(*d*) The expenditure on Capital works up to 31st March 1928 against the estimates prepared in 1925 is Rs. 25,95,576. Loans aggregating 23 lakhs have been taken by the Trust from Government for the execution of the works. These loans are repayable in 30 annual equated payments which include both principal and interest.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I enquire whether the Government have in view two separate harbours, one at Hare Island and the other at Tuticorin alternatively, or whether they are going to put this as a combined scheme?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government have not come to any conclusion in the matter. They have called for estimates on both the harbours."